

EC BRIEFING

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8 SEPTEMBER 1955

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CYPRUS - OVERNIGHT DEVELOPMENTS

- I. NATO's permanent council has been called to meet today (Thursday) to discuss the threatening situation, resulting from Turkish riots at Izmir (Smyrna) - a NATO headquarters. Both Greece and Turkey are, of course, NATO members.
- II. The Greek Foreign Ministry--greatly disturbed over the riots in Turkey--has discussed the situation with the American charge in Athens. The Foreign Ministry is planning to evacuate the families of its military personnel stationed at Izmir.
- III. Late Department of State reports from Istanbul (analyzing developments during the past two days) indicate that an inflammatory press campaign in recent days--including statements by Turkish officials--may have been the spark that touched off the riots.

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IV... The Turks are trying to restore order. Ankara, Istanbul and Izmir have been put under martial law and some 2,000 rioters have been arrested.

V (A possible chuckle for the Council: The fabulous Hilton "Hotel Istanbul," opened this summer, now is harboring a Turkish cavalry detachmeht on its front lawn).

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